

MATTEAWAN GALLERY

For Immediate Release:

Greg Slick: New Work

June 8 – June 29, 2013

Opening Reception Saturday, June 8, 6-9 pm

Beacon, NY, May 25, 2013 - Matteawan Gallery is pleased to present Greg Slick: New Work. The exhibition runs through June 29, 2013, and features abstract paintings and works on paper. In conjunction with the exhibition, Slick will be introducing a new artist's book titled *Head Arrangement* that focuses on his recent series of gouaches.

On view are works from the 16-piece series of gouaches on paper titled *Head Arrangement*. In this series, Slick is influenced primarily by mid-twentieth century modern art, Chinese and Japanese Zen painting, and Indian tantric painting, as well as by the rhythms of jazz. "Head arrangement" is a term used by jazz musicians that refers to swing bands' and small combos' habit of arranging an old standard, memorizing it, improvising, but never writing down the adaptation. Likewise, Slick takes iconic shapes from the history of modernism and improvises with their forms and textures. The result is a series of shapes intended to be read in a linear fashion, much as one would experience a few bars of music. There is an improvisational, instinctual quality to these works; Slick did not plan the paintings in advance, but painted what felt right on the paper at that moment, a process akin to a synesthetic experience of music as colors and shapes.

Also included in the exhibition are new abstract paintings on wood panels that continue Slick's interest in breaking down and reinterpreting the conventions of modernist painting. The works contain the elongated lozenge shapes and muted colors of his earlier work, but with increased abrasion and reworking of paint on the surface, and more complex backgrounds. In the new paintings, Slick strips away the inessential and shows only what is indispensable, laying down forms and colors taken from a constantly evolving lexicon of imagery. His work has many disparate influences, including Chinese calligraphy, abstract expressionism, Edward Tufte's data graphics, and street art.

Greg Slick has exhibited in New York, as well as internationally. He studied Chinese calligraphy and painting at the Chinese Information and Culture Center in New York from 1999-2002. In 2003 he was an artist in residence at the Estonian Artist's Association in Tallinn, Estonia. Slick is also an independent curator, and has worked with The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz, the Woodstock Artists Association and Museum, Woodstock, NY, and the Garrison Art Center, Garrison, NY. In 2006 Slick, along with artist Karlos Carcamo, founded Go North Gallery in Beacon, NY. Joe Pan joined as co-owner in 2007, and they continued to show work by emerging and established artists until the gallery closed in 2009. In 2010 Slick founded The Artist's Statement Picture Show, a series of film and video screenings co-curated with artist Mollie McKinley. Slick's early work was the subject of a monograph published by Brooklyn Arts Press in 2008.

Gallery hours are Friday and Saturday from 12-5, and Sunday by appointment. For additional information please visit www.matteawan.com or contact Karlyn Benson, info@matteawan.com or 845-440-7901.